

README File for “Replication data for: Endogenous Jurisprudential Regimes”

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The replication archive includes four replication datasets and the R code for estimating the multivariate change-point model and for approximating the Bayes factor. This file documents the R code and datasets and explains how to reproduce our results and fit the changepoint model.

1. Replication R Code

The replication archive includes three .R files, namely, `ChgPtProbitMCMC.R`, `ChgPtProbitMarginalLikelihood.R`, and `ChgPtProbitReducedMCMC.R`.

`ChgPtProbitMCMC.R`: the file includes one major function `Probit.ChangingPoint` for estimating the multivariate change-point model using markov chain Monte Carlo and several supporting functions called in `Probit.ChangingPoint`. The user can either copy and past the whole file into the R console or simply use the function `source("ChgPtProbitMCMC.R")` to call all these functions. Then, the following function is ready to be called to fit the multivariate change-point model:

```
Probit.ChangingPoint<-function(y, X, TimeIndex, M, B0, beta0, a00, b00,  
beta.start, S.start, P.start, m=10000, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>y</code>	dichotomous response variable (vector)
<code>X</code>	explanatory variables (a matrix with the first column as unit)
<code>TimeIndex</code>	decision time index (vector)
<code>beta0, B0</code>	mean and variance-covariance matrix of a multivariate normal distribution as the prior of the coefficients β associated with X
<code>M</code>	number of regimes ($M - 1$ is the number of change-points)
<code>a00, b00</code>	two shape parameters of a Beta distribution used as the prior distribution of the transition probability P (scalar)
<code>beta.start</code>	starting values of β (vector)
<code>S.start</code>	starting values of the state index (vector, the elements should start with 1 and end with M)
<code>P.start</code>	starting value of the transition probability (scalar)
<code>m</code>	number of MCMC iterations to be returned

<code>burnin</code>	number of initial iterations to be discarded
<code>tracking</code>	to return a message when the simulation process finishes every <code>tracking</code> iterations
<code>thin</code>	chain thinning, storing the last iteration of every <code>thin</code> iterations
<code>Marginal.likelihood</code>	to choose whether to calculate and return the log marginal likelihood (TRUE or FALSE)
<code>reduced.n</code>	only when the argument <code>Marginal.likelihood</code> takes TRUE, the argument needs to be specified. How many iterations to be returned in reduced runs.
<code>reduced.turnin</code>	only when the argument <code>Marginal.likelihood</code> takes TRUE, the argument needs to be specified. How many initial iterations to be discarded in reduced runs.

Value

`Probit.ChangingPoint` returns the MCMC draws from the posterior distributions of the coefficients (β), the transition probability (P) and the state indicator (S) as a list. The user can use the functions in the R package `coda` to summarize the posteriors and conduct convergence diagnostics. If the user specifies the argument `marginal.likelihood` as TRUE, the function will also return the estimate of the log marginal likelihood.

`ChgPtProbitMarginalLikelihood.R`: the file contains R code for approximating the log marginal likelihood of the specified model. It can be called in the function `Probit.ChangingPoint` or be applied separately. If the function is called in `Probit.ChangingPoint`, make sure all the three R files are in the same directory. To approximate the marginal likelihood, the following function in the file is used:

```
Marginal.likelihood <- function(y, X, MCMCoutput, TimeIndex, beta0, B0,
M, a00, b00, iteration, burninstage)
```

Arguments

Except `MCMCoutput`, all the arguments are the same as in `Probit.ChangingPoint`. The argument `MCMCoutput` takes the output of the function `MCMCoutput`, which is a list of the MCMC draws. Note that the priors should be the same as those used in the MCMC simulation.

Values

`Marginal.likelihood` returns the final estimate of the log marginal likelihood as well as the value of each ordinate on the log scale as a list.

`ChgPtProbitReducedMCMC.R`: the file includes an R function for conducting reduced runs to approximate the marginal likelihood. The function has to be called in `Marginal.likelihood`. Make sure the file is in the same directory as `ChgPtProbitMarginalLikelihood.R`. Because the function cannot be used by its own, the user need not go into the details about the function.

2. Replication Data

In the paper we applied the multivariate change-point model to test the hypothesis of “jurisprudential regimes” in four areas of law: freedom of expression, the Establishment Clause, search and seizure, and administrative law, using replication data that Bert Kritzer, Mark Richards, and Jeff Segal generously shared with us.

Freedom of Expression

To replicate the results in Section 4.1, please use the replication dataset `SpeechFinalSub.RData` in our replication archive. This dataset is a subset of the dataset used in Richards and Kritzer (2002). The variable labels in Figure 2 have their corresponding variables names in `SpeechFinalSub.RData` as following:

Decision Time: <code>casekey</code>	Private: <code>government.private</code>
Decision: <code>voting</code>	Education: <code>government.education</code>
Ideology: <code>ideology</code>	Local: <code>government.local</code>
Threshold Not Meet: <code>jusri.threshold.not</code>	Federal: <code>government.federal</code>
Content Based: <code>juris.content.based</code>	Politician: <code>identity.politician</code>
Content Neutral: <code>juris.content.neutral</code>	Racial Minority: <code>identity.racial.minority</code>
Criminal: <code>action.criminal</code>	Alleged Communist: <code>identity.alleged.communist</code>
Deny Expression: <code>action.deny.expression</code>	Minitary Protester: <code>identity.minitary.protester</code>
Deny Benefit: <code>action.deny.benefit</code>	Business: <code>identity.business</code>
Disciplinary: <code>action.disciplinary</code>	Religious: <code>identity.religious</code>
Loss Employment: <code>action.lose.employment</code>	Print Media: <code>identity.print.media</code>
Regulation: <code>action.regulation</code>	Broadcast Media: <code>identity.broadcast.media</code>
Other: <code>government.other</code>	

When fitting the model, the variable `voting` is the response variable and should be specified as `y` in the R functions for MCMC simulation or marginal likelihood approximation; `casekey` is the index of decision time, used for specifying the argument `TimeIndex`; and the rest of the variables should be specified as the `X` argument in those R functions.

Establishment Clause

To replicate the results in Section 4.2, please use the replication dataset `estab.RData` in our replication archive. This dataset is a subset of the data used in Kritzer and Richards (2003). The variable labels in Figure 4 have their corresponding variables names in `estab.RData` as following:

Decision Time: <code>Index</code>	Colleges/Universities: <code>level</code>
Decision: <code>vote</code>	Historical Practice: <code>history</code>
No Secular Purpose: <code>purpose</code>	Government Monitoring: <code>surveill</code>
General Government Service: <code>gengov</code>	Attitude: <code>attitude</code>
Neutral: <code>neutral</code>	

When fitting the model, the variable `vote` is the response variable and should be specified as `y` in the R functions for MCMC simulation or marginal likelihood approximation; `Index` is the index of decision time, used for specifying the argument `TimeIndex`; and the rest of the variables should be specified as the `x` argument in those R functions.

Search and Seizure

To replicate the results in Section 4.3, please use the replication dataset `SearchVote.RData` in our replication archive. This dataset is a subset of the data used in Kritzer and Richards (2005). The variable labels in Figure 6 have their corresponding variables names in `SearchVote.RData` as following:

Decision Time: <code>casekey</code>	Warrant: <code>warrant</code>
Decision: <code>vote</code>	Probable Cause: <code>lctpc</code>
House: <code>house</code>	Incident to Arrest: <code>lctinc</code>
Business: <code>business</code>	After Arrest: <code>lctaft</code>
Person: <code>person</code>	After Unlawful: <code>lctunl</code>
Car: <code>car</code>	Exceptions: <code>except</code>
Full Search: <code>search</code>	Attitude: <code>segcov</code>

When fitting the model, the variable `vote` is the response variable and should be specified as `y` in the R functions for MCMC simulation or marginal likelihood approximation; `casekey` is the index of decision time, used for specifying the argument `TimeIndex`; and the rest of the variables should be specified as the `x` argument in those R functions.

Administrative Law

To replicate the results in Section 4.4, please use the replication dataset `admin.RData` in our replication archive. This dataset is a subset of the data used in Richards et al. (2006). The variable labels in Figure 8 have their corresponding the variables names in `admin.RData` as following:

Decision Time: <code>Index</code>	Amici Unclear: <code>amicus.u</code>
Decision: <code>votedef</code>	Opposing: <code>party¹</code>
Attitude: <code>attitude</code>	Advocating: <code>dparty²</code>
Agency Policy Direction: <code>agncydir</code>	President Can Fire Agency Head: <code>agencyhd</code>
APD*Attitude: <code>agndiratti</code>	Rulemaking: <code>rulemake</code>
Amici to Reverse: <code>rev.amici</code>	Statute Length: <code>columncm</code>
Amici to Defer: <code>def.amic</code>	

1 The variable `party` is a factor with four levels, and `agovt` is the baseline. The paper reported the estimates of the coefficients associated with the other three levels with labels in Figure 8 as Corporation Opposing, Individual Opposing and Non-Corporate Interest Group Opposing.

2 The variable `dparty` is a factor with two levels, and `aanonag` is the baseline. The paper reported the estimates of the coefficients associated with the other three levels with labels in Figure 8 as Agency Advocating and Agency with Co-party Advocating.

When fitting the model, the variable `votedef` is the response variable and should be specified as `y` in the R functions for MCMC simulation or marginal likelihood approximation; `Index` is the index of decision time, used for specifying the argument `TimeIndex`; and the rest of the variables should be specified as the `X` argument in those R functions.

References

- Kritzer, H. M. and M. J. Richards (2003). Jurisprudential regimes and supreme court decisionmaking: The lemon regime and establishment clause cases. *Law & Society Review* 37, 827–840.
- Kritzer, H. M. and M. J. Richards (2005). The influence of law in the supreme court’s search-and-seizure jurisprudence. *American Politics Research* 33, 33–55.
- Richards, M. J. and H. M. Kritzer (2002). Jurisprudential regimes in supreme court decision making. *The American Political Science Review* 96, 305–320.
- Richards, M. J., J. L. Smith, and H. M. Kritzer (2006). Does chevron matter? *Law & Policy* 28, 444–469.